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Customs Commercial System

*****INFORMATION*****

**WHERE TO GET IT.
TORONTO REGION**



CUSTOMS COMMERCIAL SYSTEM

INFORMATION - WHERE TO GET IT.

BAR CODE SPECIFICATIONS -See "Release of Commercial Shipment Booklet"

BAR CODE SPECIFICATIONS AMENDMENT

Amendment to the Bar Code Specifications which are listed in the "Release of Commercial Shipments" booklet, Second Edition, May, 1987.

Refer to: Page 24, Appendix 4, 5. Width of Narrow Bar

Amend: The maximum width of a narrow wide bar for Code 3 or 9 (2:1 ratio) to read 0.016". Section 5 will now read as follows:

Width of Narrow Bar

The minimum width of a narrow bar must be 0.009".

The maximum width of a narrow wide bar is dependent on the bar code symbology selected as follows:

Code 3 of 9 (2:1 ratio)	= 0.016"
Code 3 of 9 (3:1 ratio)	= 0.012"
Code 128 (no double density)	= 0.016"
Code 128 (double density)	= 0.024"

CADEX (CUSTOMS AUTOMATED DATA EXCHANGE)

Information concerning CADEX is contained in the Detailed Information Kit. Those importers/brokers who have the computer capability and are seriously interested in becoming CADEX participants may obtain further information by requesting the CADEX Participant Requirements Document. Any requests for copies should be made through the Training and Public Information office in Ottawa:


Customs Commerical System Task Force
Training and Public Information
Sir Richard Scott Building
191 Laurier Avenue West
7th Floor
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0L5

Telephone: (613) 954-6300

DETAILED INFORMATION KIT - THE CUSTOMS COMMERCIAL SYSTEM

This Detailed Information Kit has been prepared by Revenue Canada, Customs and Excise for the purpose of providing information about the Customs Commercial System that will be implemented during 1987 and 1988. Included are four (4) packages.

"Classification in the Harmonized System" provides you with the information necessary to learn how to classify goods in the Harmonized System. For example, it describes the structure of the Tariff, the step by step process for classifying imports and exports, and the rules for classifying goods.



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"B3 Documentation Requirements" provides detailed completion instructions on the new B3 document and describes the Detailed Coding Statement that will advise an importer/broker of errors on the B3 documents.

"Release of Commercial Shipments" explains the changes affecting the importer or broker at time of release. It includes a description of Release on Minimum Documentation (RMD), the privilege provided to importers and brokers to have goods cleared through Customs upon presentation of a cargo control document and unrated supporting documents. This package also outlines the Release Support System (RSS), an automated system that identifies to Customs, the documentation and examination requirements, and controls the time frames from the release of the shipment until acquittal by an accounting document.

"General Information on the Customs Commercial System" provides information on other changes to the commercial system and information on the methods the Department will use to support importers and brokers in the changeover. For example, it contains technical information on the Customs Automated Data Exchange (CADEX), the Technical Reference System (TRS) and the documentation requirements for exporting goods from Canada. It also details information sources for the public, such as the telephone information service, seminars and the issuance of provisional opinions for goods that will be imported under the Harmonized System.

It is important to emphasize that the packages on the Harmonized System and B3 contained in this kit are based on legislation anticipated for January 1, 1988. As a result, any changes which may be made to the legislation by Parliament prior to implementation of the Harmonized System will be incorporated in subsequent revisions of these publications.

THESE KITS MAY BE OBTAINED AT ANY CUSTOMS OFFICE IN THE TORONTO REGION.

D.S.S. ORDER FORM FLYER

Various publications concerning the Customs Commercial System are available. This flyer lists the publications, costs and information on how to order. Copies are available at:

Information Services
1st Floor
1 Front Street West
Toronto, Ontario
(416) 973-8022.

FORMS -B2's and B3's

Importer/brokers who wish to arrange for private printing of the B3 and B2 can obtain a copy of the new 1988 forms at:

Information Services
1st Floor
1 Front Street West
Toronto, Ontario
(416) 973-8022

For those importers/brokers that do not use privately printed B3 and B2 Forms, a sufficient supply will be available within each Region by Mid-September and November 2, 1987, respectively.

HARMONIZED SYSTEM

Information Sessions

Importer/Brokers Trainers

An extensive three (3) day course has commenced as of August 11, 1987. Participants will be responsible for training other staff in their offices. Written requests should be addressed to Operational Services.

Associations

During the period of June - December, 1987, information sessions regarding the Customs Commercial System which includes the Harmonized System will be made available for associations, upon written requests to Operational Services and will be tailored to identified needs.

The following conditions, however, will apply:

1. A written request must be sent to Operational Services, identifying exactly what training is required and the number of people involved.
2. The association involved will be responsible for arranging space and possibly for printing of handout materials.

Other

For those people who are not members of associations, sessions are being planned on an "as needed" basis. Written requests should be directed to Operational Services.

Correspondence for the abovementioned sessions is to be addressed to:

Customs and Excise
Manager, Operational Services Division
P.O. Box 10, Station "A"
Toronto, Ontario
M5W 1A3

Provisional Opinions

The Tariff Program and Appraisal Division began to issue provisional opinions on Harmonized System (H.S.) classification as of July 2, 1987. Due to limited resources, the following is the basis under which this is being done:

1. Priority will continue to be given to requests for tariff classification under the current Tariff. Such requests should be made only when absolutely necessary, e.g. for pricing of new products, etc. If an H.S. provisional opinion is also required, this must be indicated in the same letter, thus eliminating possible duplication of effort.

2. Existing rulings will not be converted in view of the current workload. Further, a proper relationship between the current and new Tariff may not exist.
3. Importers/Brokers should make every attempt to do straightforward conversions. However, I.P.A. will provide guidance in difficult cases.
4. Requests for provisional opinions under the Harmonized System will be answered on first-come, first-served basis, as our workload permits.
5. Only one H.S. provisional opinion will be given at a time. We will not classify all goods in a catalogue or a listing. Illustrated descriptive literature, specifications, etc. of a representative specific sample of the type of goods in a catalogue or listing should be submitted. The provisional opinion received from I.P.A. may then be used as a guide for classifying other related goods.

Note:

All requests for tariff classification made during 1987 must be in writing. Verbal H.S. provisional opinions **will not** be provided.

Any H.S. provisional opinions given are not rulings as the Harmonized System will not be legal until January 1, 1988.

Every effort will be made to reply to all letters received, however, should the volume of letters exceed our resource commitments, it may not be possible to respond to all requests which may remain outstanding after January 1, 1988.

IMPORTER NUMBER

Form T124 Request for Importer Number can be obtained at any Customs office. Once completed, this form is to be sent to:

Revenue Canada, Customs and Excise
Automated Systems Development
Maintenance and Control
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0L5

QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM

Beginning in September 1987, Customs will provide importer/brokers with an excellent opportunity to test their readiness for the January 1, 1988 implementation of both the Harmonized System Tariff (HS) and Customs Commercial System changes.

HOW: By submitting samples of 1988 B3 Accounting Documentation (fully completed B3 accounting packages including bar coded transaction number, HS classification with supporting invoice and cargo control documentation).

By submitting samples of 1988 B2 Adjustment Request Forms.

WHERE: At Customs offices throughout Canada.

WHY: To help verify the state of readiness of importer and brokers with regard to the January 1, 1988 requirements.

To help prevent rejected documents in 1988, thereby reducing unnecessary costs for importers, brokers and Customs.

For more information, please see the Quality Assurance Program Bulletin and the Toronto Region Q.A.P. letter.

RELEASE OF COMMERCIAL SHIPMENTS (SECOND EDITION MAY 1987) BOOKLET

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This booklet is available at all Customs offices in the Toronto Region.

